IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: :

Bernard NIVELET   :   Art unit: 2175

Serial No.: 09/701,611   :   Examiner: RIMELL, Samuel G.

Filing Date: December 1, 2000   :

For: METHOD FOR PRECONDITIONING AND ENCODING A DATA
      TABLE, AND METHOD FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TABLE
      REQUESTS ON A VECTORAL PROCESSOR

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Technology Center 2100

AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the requirement for restriction set forth in the Official Action dated

February 25, 2003, Applicant elects, for purposes of prosecution, claims 35-46 drawn to

methods of preconditioning a data table and searching a data table. This election is made

with traverse.

The Examiner basis his requirement for restriction on the fact that the claims of the

two (2) identified groups are directed to process and apparatus and that a computer system

can be used for word processing, performing arithmetic calculations, computer program

development, sending and receiving electronic mail and receiving web page content from the

world wide web. From that, the Examiner concludes that the apparatus can be used to

practice other materially different processes

Applicant takes issue with the Examiner's conclusion not supported by a rational

examination of what is claimed. The Examiner has taken a broad brush approach identifying

the claims with a computer system without limitation. The Examiner has failed to analyze

the nature of the claims and the fact that the system as claimed is fairly well limited to the

process as defined in the method claims. For example, it is a requirement of the claims that the search system has a decision application server comprising a relational database containing a set of target records, and a search engine coupled with the decision application server. The search engine is activated by a query for selecting records from a set of target records based on a given criteria sent by a decision application server. The search engine comprises a module for preconditioning data intended for the relational database and installing an encoded table corresponding to the relational database in a machine with vectoral capabilities. The inventive features comprise the means for operating on the system. Thus, to assert that the claims are directed to a computer system that can be used for word processing, arithmetic calculations, etc., ignores the limitations of the claim language which define the invention. Had the claims merely called for "A computer System", the Examiner's position may be justified. But that is not the case here.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirement for restriction are respectfully requested. As noted above, however, should the Examiner persist in the requirement for restriction, Applicant elects for purposes of prosecution method claims 35-46.

Respectfully submitted,

Miles & Stockbridge P.C.

Date: _3/20/03_   By: _____
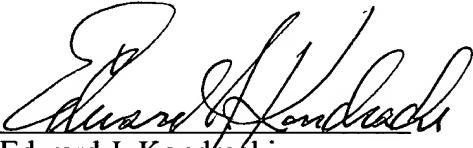
Edward J. Kondracki
Registration No. 20,604

Miles & Stockbridge P.C.
1751 Pinnacle Dr.
Suite 500
McLean, VA 22102
Phone 703-903-9000
Fax 703-610-8686